

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-18 (canceled)

19. (new) A canine CD20 protein having an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (new) (Amended) A protein having a homology of 70% or higher with an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1, and having the same function as a canine CD20 protein.

21. (new) A protein having a homology of 80% or higher with an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 1, and having the same function as a canine CD20 protein.

22. (new) A DNA encoding canine CD20 according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

23. (new) A polynucleotide having a homology of 70% or higher with a DNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

24. (new) A polynucleotide having a homology of 80% or higher with a DNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 3.

25. (new) An RNA encoding canine CD20 according to SEQ ID NO: 4.

26. (new) A polynucleotide having a homology of 70% or higher with an RNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 4.

**Best Available Copy**

27. (new) A polynucleotide having a homology of 80% or higher with an RNA sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 4.
28. (new) A plasmid vector comprising a canine CD20 gene fragment according to Claim 22.
29. (new) A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 23.
30. (new) A plasmid vector comprising a canine CD20 gene fragment according to Claim 25.
31. (new) A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 26.
32. (new) A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 28.
33. (new) A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 30.
34. (new) A primer according to SEQ ID NO: 19 for diagnosing canine malignant lymphoma which amplifies canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof.
35. (new) A primer according to SEQ ID NO: 20 for diagnosing canine malignant lymphoma which amplifies canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof.
36. (new) A method of diagnosing canine malignant lymphoma by amplifying canine CD20 gene or a fragment thereof to examine expression of the canine CD20 gene using a primer according to Claim 34.

**Best Available Copy**

37.(new) A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 24.

38.(new) A plasmid vector comprising a polynucleotide according to Claim 27.

39.(new) A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 29.

40.(new) A transformant comprising a plasmid vector according to Claim 31.

**Best Available Copy**